



Docket No.: 201487/1020 (E2-001PCT-US)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

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Applicants : Notomi et al.
Serial No. : 09/530,061 based on PCT/JP99/06213
Filed : November 8, 1999
For : METHOD OF SYNTHESIZING NUCLEIC
ACID

Examiner:
A. Chakrabarti
Art Unit:
1632

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box:

Dear Sir:

In response to the February 15, 2001, office action, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-11 and 13-28 without prejudice add new claims 29-50 as follows.

29. A method of amplifying a nucleic acid comprising:

A) providing a first template having (i) a 3' end portion comprising a first region and a first complementary region which, under suitable conditions, anneal to one another to form a first loop, (ii) a 5' end portion comprising a second region and a second complementary region which, under suitable conditions, anneal to one another to form a second loop, and (iii) a single-stranded target region connecting the 3' end portion and the 5' end portion;

B) synthesizing a nucleic acid chain complementary to the single-stranded target region using the 3' terminal of the first template, when the first region and first complementary region are annealed to one another, as the origin of said synthesizing;

C) annealing to the first loop of the first template an oligonucleotide primer comprising at the 3' terminal a nucleotide sequence complementary to the first loop;